CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD **CENTRAL COAST REGION** 895 Aerovista Place Suite 101 San Luis Obispo, Ca 93401-7906

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE OF FILING A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT

TO CONSIDER ADOPTION OF THE SAN LUIS OBISPO CREEK TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR NITRATE-NITROGEN IN THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR THE CENTRAL COAST BASIN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the California Regional Water Quality Control Board Central Coast Region (Central Coast Water Board), will hold a public hearing to consider adoption of a resolution amending the Water Quality Control Plan of the Central Coast Region. If accepted, this amendment will incorporate the San Luis Obispo Creek Total Maximum Daily Load for Nitrate-Nitrogen, thereby revising the Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan). At the conclusion of the hearing the Central Coast Water Board will consider approval of the proposed amendment. The Basin Plan establishes measures to protect beneficial uses of water and achieve water quality objectives.

Actions to amend the Basin Plan will be taken in accordance with a regulatory program exempt under Section 21080.5 of the Public Resources Code from the requirement to prepare an environmental impact report under the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code, Section 21000 et seq.) and with other applicable laws and regulations.

The Central Coast Water Board is proposing to adopt a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for nitrate-nitrogen (nitrate-N) for San Luis Obispo Creek (Creek). The purpose of the TMDL is to protect the Creek from the degradation of water quality by protecting beneficial uses from the problems associated with elevated nitrate-N levels. Copies of the proposed amendment to the Basin Plan (in the form of a staff report, a functionally equivalent document which includes an Environmental Checklist, and draft amendment for adoption) are available on the Internet at:

http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb3/TMDL/PublicCommentParticipation.htm.

Please see at the website: "Staff Report for San Luis Obispo Creek Total Maximum Daily Load for Nitrate-N." The proposed amendments to the Basin Plan are also available by request at the office of the Central Coast Water Board; please contact: Carrie Fauset at 805-549-3506.

The public hearing is scheduled as follows:

Date: September 9, 2005

Time: 8:30 a.m.

Place: Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

895 Aerovista Dr., Ste. 101 San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-7906 Time limits may be imposed on oral presentations at the hearing. Additional or alternative rules or regulations consistent with the general purpose of the amendment and complementary to the specific proposed rules may be adopted at the hearing.

At the conclusion of the public hearing, the Central Coast Water Board will consider certification of the environmental document and approval of the proposed amendments.

The public comment period will occur from June 13, 2005 to July 28, 2005. Written submissions received after July 28, 2005 will not be considered or made part of the record [optional: absent an explanation of why comments could not be submitted on time and any prejudice that would result from excluding the comments]. The Board will accept time-limited oral comments at the hearing.

Copies of the existing Basin Plan are located at libraries in major cities throughout the region, at the office of the Central Coast Water Board, and on the Internet at www.swrcb.ca.gov/~rwqcb3/.

The hearing and public parking location are indicated on the attached map. The location of the hearing is accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals who require special accommodations are requested to contact Carrie Fauset at 805-549-3506 at least five working days prior to September 9, 2005. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or voice line at 1-800-735-2922.

For additional information on this Basin Plan review, please call Christopher Rose at 805-542-4770.

Date: June 9, 2005